

— To all whom these presents shall come —

I, Edwin Ward Moore, Commanding Texas Navy, and as such, in Command of the Texas Ship of War, called the Austin, and Brig of War called the Wharton, both now lying in this Port of New Orleans State of Louisiana, bound on a cruise on the Coast of Mexico, and thence back to this port of New Orleans: Said Greeting: Whereas the said Ship of War Austin and Brig of War Wharton, are under detention in this port, & unable to proceed on their intended cruise for want of money to pay certain debts, due and contracted for the use and advantage of said Vessels:

And Whereas, I the said Edwin Ward Moore, officer in Command of the aforesaid Ship of War Austin, and Brig of War Wharton being without funds of my own, or belonging to the Government of the Republic of Texas, and unable to raise money, either on my own credit, or the credit of the Government of the Republic of Texas, to pay the said debts, and thereby enable the said Vessels of War, under my Command to proceed on their intended cruise; which said debts amount in the aggregate to the sum of Five thousand Dollars; and Whereas, I am compelled to take up and borrow upon the bottom of the two said Vessels of War Austin & Wharton, the said sum of Five thousand Dollars for the purpose of paying the said debts, and enable me to proceed with the said Vessels on the said intended cruise:

And Whereas Robert W. Estlin of this City has lent and advanced unto me the said sum of Five thousand Dollars; at the rate of Five per cent, for each and every month, advanced during the said intended cruise, and that upon the security of the bottom of the said Ship